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Date: July 12, 2001

By: Kristi R. Copeland

PATENT APPLICATION

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Bin Zhao Atty Docket No.: 60944.1417
Maureen R. Brongo
Serial No.: 09/044,536-317536 Client Ref: 97RSS256-DIV
Filed: May 24, 1999 Group Art Unit: 2812
TITLE: INTERCONNECT WITH LOW DIELECTRIC CONSTANT INSULATORS FOR
SEMICONDUCTOR INTEGRATED CIRCUIT MANUFACTURING

**RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Box RESPONSES - FEE
Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby respond to the Office Action dated March 14, 2001, for which the period to respond is hereby extended one month. Please amend the above captioned application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.121(b)(1)(i), at page 1, line 20, please delete the entire paragraph which begins 'Recently, there has been great interest to replace SiO₂

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